

## CLAIMS

1. A method of measuring a biodegradation rate of a non-natural organic compound in the presence of a biodegradation medium, characterized by comprising:

measuring a concentration of a radioactive carbon isotope  $^{14}\text{C}$  in a biodegradation medium; and

measuring a biodegradation rate of a non-natural organic compound from a difference between the concentration of  $^{14}\text{C}$  in the biodegradation medium and a concentration of  $^{14}\text{C}$  in modern carbon.

2. A method of measuring a biodegradation rate of a non-natural organic compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that the biodegradation rate is measured by using an internal standard.

3. A method of measuring a biodegradation rate of a non-natural organic compound according to Claim 2, characterized in that the internal standard comprises a metal selected from the group consisting of bioessential metals such as iron, copper, and manganese.